

In re Patent Application of

Atty Dkt. 839-636

C# M#

WEBB et al.

Group Art Unit: 2834

Serial No. 09/430,904

Examiner: Perez

Filed: November 1, 1999

Date: September 24, 2001

Title: POWDER COATED INSULATED BOLTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER**

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

**Fees are attached as calculated below:**

Total effective claims after amendment 6 minus highest number  
previously paid for 20 (at least 20) = 0 x \$ 18.00 \$ 0.00

Independent claims after amendment 2 minus highest number  
previously paid for 3 (at least 3) = 0 x \$ 80.00 \$ 0.00

If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$270.00 (ignore improper) \$ 0.00

Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this  
paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$390.00/2 months; \$890.00/3 months) \$ 110.00

Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00 \$ 0.00

☐ First/second submission after Final Rejection pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(a) (\$710.00) \$ 0.00

☐ Please enter the previously unentered , filed

☐ Submission attached

**Subtotal \$ 110.00**

If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract -\$ 0.00

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ Statement filed herewith

Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00) \$ 0.00

Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00) \$ 0.00

Other: 0.00

**TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED \$ 110.00**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.  
By Atty: Michael J. Keenan, Reg. No. 32,106

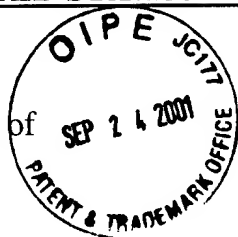
Signature: Michael J. Keenan

09/25/2001 MAB911 00000005 09430904

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



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For: POWDER COATED INSULATED BOLTS

\* \* \* \* \*

September 24, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Responsive to the Official Action dated May 23, 2001 (for which petition is hereby made for a one month extension of time), applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the single outstanding ground of rejection for the reasons which follow.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Ostwald in view of Duffy. According to the Examiner, Ostwald discloses a dynamo-electric machine that includes electrically insulated bolts 14, each bolt having a head with a flange and a threaded shank with some portion of the threaded shank and the underside of the flange having an electrically insulating material 22, 23. The Examiner relies upon Duffy for disclosing an epoxy powder composition coating applied to

fasteners and concluded that it would have been obvious to modify the bolts of Ostwald to include an electrically insulating epoxy powder composition allegedly disclosed in Duffy.

In the primary reference to Ostwald, the bolts 14 are electrically insulated from the core 9 by insulating sleeve 24 and glass filled polycarbonate shoulder washers 22 and 23. The bolts themselves are apparently not coated.

The secondary reference to Duffy relates to threaded fasteners and has for its principal object reduction of insulating drive torque. Thus, Duffy discloses coating the tip and/or some additional length of a threaded portion of a fastener with a Teflon® coating.

In this connection, Duffy seeks to provide a coating that will protect, insulate or mask the threads of the fastener from unwanted contamination or deposition of material on the threads. By lubricating the threads, the fastener is less likely to pick up other materials such as corrosion inhibitors, fibrous insulation, and the like, as the fastener is threaded into a second article.

The Examiner's reference to column 4 of Duffy for teaching an electrically insulating barrier that remains functional at an electrical potential in a range of 500-2500 VDC is clearly misplaced. In column 1, Duffy discloses that the lubricating coating on the fastener is resistant to the deposition of corrosion preventative material. That resistance is evidenced by the fact that the layer apparently provides an insulating barrier to the threads of the fastener when about 500-600 volts of electric potential is applied against the uniform layer for at least two seconds.

The above disclosure in Duffy is not a teaching that the Teflon® coating will remain functional when the bolts are fully tightened at an electrical potential in a range of 500 and 2500 VDC as required by both claims 4 and 7.

Moreover, it is readily apparent that the coating of Duffy would not have been applied to an underside of an integral flange of a bolt, i.e., in Ostwald (although Ostwald does not disclose a bolt with an integral flange). This is because Duffy is concerned only with the reduction in installation torque and as such, applies the coating only to the threaded portion of a fastener. Applying this teaching to Ostwald, one of ordinary skill in the art would have applied the Teflon® coating in the lowermost threaded portion of Ostwald's bolt and would not have had any reason to apply the coating to the underside of an integral flange adjacent the head of the bolt.


Accordingly, not only has the prior art been applied through the utilization of impermissible hindsight, but the fact remains that even if the references are combined, the claimed invention does not ensue. For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 4, 5 and 7 are clearly patentable over the applied prior art.

Should any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned so that the prosecution of this application can be expeditiously concluded.

**WEBB et al.**  
**Serial No. 09/430,904**

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: 

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